

Public Notice – Environmental Study

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To announce a public meeting and seek public comment on a water quality improvement study by the Department of Environmental Quality for the Flat Rock Creek watershed in Lunenburg County, Virginia.

PUBLIC MEETING: Ripberger Public Library, located at 117 South Broad Street, Kenbridge, Virginia, on Tuesday, March 6, 2007 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. A rain date has been scheduled for Thursday, March 15, 2007, at the same time and location.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: March 7, 2007 to April 6, 2007. Should inclement weather result in the meeting being held on the rain date (March 15), the public comment period will extend from March 16, 2007 to April 16, 2007.

MEETING DESCRIPTION: This is a public meeting to discuss a study to restore water quality in stream segments in the Flat Rock Creek watershed.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: Virginia agencies are working to identify sources of bacteria contamination in stream segments in the Flat Rock Creek watershed in Central Virginia. This contamination exceeds water quality standards, thus prohibiting swimming and other forms of primary contact recreation. The contamination impairs or decreases the quality of the water.

The following is a list of the “impaired” waters, the length of the impaired segment, the type of impairment, and the segment location:

Flat Rock Creek (1.66 miles), *E.coli*, Lunenburg County (beginning upstream at the Route 652 bridge and extending downstream to the Kenbridge Public Water Supply intake just upstream of Route 637); Flat Rock Creek (9.72 miles), fecal coliform bacteria, Lunenburg County (beginning upstream at the confluence downstream of the Route 647 bridge, and extending downstream to its mouth at the Meherrin River); and Broad Branch (3.48 miles), *E.coli*, Lunenburg County (beginning upstream at its headwaters and extending downstream to the confluence with Flat Rock Creek).

During the study, DEQ will develop a total maximum daily load, or a TMDL, for the impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, contamination levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount.

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